

SARALEGUI, CRISTINA (1949–)

"Americans have to understand that we are here, and we are Americans,"
Cristina Saralegui, *Boston Globe*.

Born in Havana, Cuba, to a family that owned a journalism empire Saralegui's grandfather had a great influence on her. In 1960, at the age of eleven, Saralegui left Cuba with her family and settled in Miami. She studied journalism and communications at the University of Miami, interned at *Vanidades*, the top women's magazine in Latin America, and worked for three of the most successful Latin magazines published in the United States. In 1979 she was appointed executive director of *Cosmopolitan en Español*, and shortly thereafter hosted a highly successful daily Spanish television show, *El Show de Cristina*. As the decision making executive producer, Saralegui determined the program's content, guests, and all other matters. During twelve years of production, the show garnered ten Emmys and undisputed recognition as the largest world-wide Spanish language talk show. Radio Única produces Saralegui's talk radio show, *Cristina Opina*, and in association with Editorial Televisa, Saralegui publishes the monthly magazine, *Cristina*. She founded the Up with Life or Arriba la Vida Foundation for AIDS research. In 1998 Saralegui completed her autobiography, *Cristina! Confidencias de una rubia*.